

CONSTITUTION FOR A DISUNITED NATION

ON HUNGARY'S 2011
FUNDAMENTAL LAW

edited by *Gábor Attila Tóth*



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"This is an excellent volume which deserves a wide readership, beyond specialists in Hungarian or European law and politics. Its theoretical chapters are important contributions to discussions about transitions to and, especially, away from constitutionalism. The careful legal analyses in the latter part of the book show how what at first glance may look like a fine liberal-democratic constitution in fact contains deeply illiberal elements and potentially disables democracy. Given that many enemies of liberal democracy nowadays are eager to present themselves as good liberals or flawless democrats, such analyses are particularly valuable."

—*Jan-Werner Müller*, Professor of Politics, Princeton University, author of *Contesting Democracy: Political Ideas in Twentieth-Century Europe*

"Constitutionalism as a democratic practice to safeguard human rights can never be taken for granted. This book takes constitutionalism seriously—it is a guiding light for Hungary and beyond, and a forceful, enlightened intervention in complicated political times."

—*Susanne Baer*, Justice, Federal Constitutional Court of Germany

"The title of the book says it all: a sad and dispiriting story about the ways in which the constitution of a modern state in the heart of Europe divides instead of integrates, excludes rather than includes, and entrenches the position of electoral victors rather than embracing all political competitors within an overarching constitutional framework. The story is told in different voices, from different perspectives, and with varying degrees of emotion, by the very best scholars in the field. For students of law and politics there is a powerful and universally applicable cautionary tale about the mistakes to be avoided and temptations to be resisted by a government if it wins an election and secures a constitution-changing majority."

—*Wojciech Sadurski*, Challis Professor of Jurisprudence, University of Sydney

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